

North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership

Minutes of the North Berwick Coastal Partnership Meeting Tuesday 3 May 2022, 7-9 pm North Berwick Community Centre

Voting Members present:	Substitute members present
Hilary Smith, Chair (HS)	
Carol McFarlane, North Berwick Community Council (CM)	
Gordon McLelland, Gullane Area Community Council (GM)	
Brett Walker, Chair On The Move (BW)	
Janice Macleod, Chair NBC Children & Youth Network (JMc)	Lauren Cowie, North Berwick Youth Project (LC)
Lorna Scott, Gullane Village Association (LS)	
Nicky Fox, NB Community Centre Management Committee (NF)	
Katie Nevans, Support from the Start (KN)	
	Tina Strong (<i>Proxy</i>), Aberlady Parent Council (TS)

Others in attendance:

Doug Haig, Connected Communities Manager (DH)
 Michael Phillips, Placement Student, North Berwick Community Centre (MP)
 Lesley Kay, NB Area Youth and Children's Network (LK)
 Rhona Huntley, SOLE
 Jemma Davidson, SOLE
 Anne Orr, Dirleton Market
 Alison Brown, Volunteer centre East Lothian (AB)

Apologies:

Liz Forsyth, Aberlady Community Association (LF)
 Simon Metzner, NB District Assoc of Churches (SM)
 Jane McMinn, North Berwick Harbour Trust (JM)
 Elma Danks, Association of East Lothian Day Centres (ED)
 Kerry Hardie, Aberlady Primary School Parent Council (KH)
 Shirley Gillie, Business Support East Lothian Council (SG)
 Ruth Pepper, Sustaining NB (RP)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS, DECISIONS <i>Actions</i>	FAO
1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies		
	<p>HS welcomed everyone to the meeting, and expressed joy of being able to meet in person once again. Thanks was passed to NF and KN for use of the community centre and the provision of refreshments. HS also thanked people for their time, acknowledging that attending meetings in person was more time consuming than switching the computer or tablet on at home. It is hoped that meetings will move to a hybrid format in the near future to allow both in person and virtual attendance.</p> <p>Round table introductions were made and apologies were noted. Those present welcomed AB from Volunteer Centre East Lothian and expressed delighted at having a</p>	DH

	representative who already had insight to the coastal ward community and its representative organisations.	
2. Minutes Previous Meeting		
	The Minutes from the Zoom meeting held on the 22 nd of March 2022 were agreed and accepted.	
3. Matters Arising		
	It was agreed that all items considered to be matters arising were covered as agenda items to follow.	
4. Declaration of Interest		
	No conflicts of interest noted. No applications were voted on as none received.	
5. Membership		
	HS advised if anyone is in doubt if they are a voting member to check with DH for confirmation.	
6. North Berwick Coastal Area Plan 2021 - 2024		
	<p>HS advised that it had been 4 years since the current Area Plan had been researched and drafted. Given the changes to the ward and the way in which we all now live post COVID, HS was keen that time be spent over the summer and autumn considering priorities for the new Plan. HS hoped that by again hosting meetings in various locations across the ward, communities would be forth coming with priorities.</p> <p>In response to a number of queries, DH offered a short explanation on Local Place Plans. They offer the opportunity for a community led, but collaborative, approach to creating great local places. LPPs can support community aspirations on the big challenges for the future such as responding to the global climate emergency and tackling inequalities. It is important that local people have the opportunity to engage meaningfully and have a positive influence in the future planning of development in their areas. DH advised that further information and training would follow.</p>	
6a.	<p>SOLE (Supporting Our Local Economy) is an app for community. A single digital point of discovery that allows users to access local shops and services just as easily as visiting those national big-name online retailers. Local businesses now have the chance to trade online to their community as well as in their physical spaces.</p> <p>It provides a free-to-all community engagement platform for local organisations, where all can browse, shop, book activities or events, find a local service, join a group.</p> <p>It also has potential to provide -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A booking and ticketing service • Hospitality table booking service • Local news feeds specific to your area • Location-specific promotions and offers • Community group profiles • Food and drink venue and event listings • Event promotion • Business promotions managed by business owners • Local events calendar that is searchable and current • Online and real-world exploration for local people to re-discover their community 	

	<p>SOLE will be available within the following communities soon and are actively working with organisations to claim their profiles now; Dunbar, Haddington, Musselburgh, North Berwick, Prestonpans and Tranent.</p> <p>Further information available at https://www.scottishtecharmy.org/blog/roll-out-of-sole-in-east-lothian</p>	
<p>7. Reports from Sub Groups</p>		
	<p>Children & Youth Network – JMc highlighted an email received from Gullane Children’s Hub, outlining the financial difficulties of families in hardship meeting the cost of out of school clubs, playgroups, clubs etc. Whilst the Hub has been supporting those experiencing difficulties, there wasn’t sufficient funding for this to be sustained.</p> <p>HS suggested utilising some £2k of the money held by the Health and Wellbeing Association for food poverty and social welfare to support a bursary scheme. It was acknowledged that ultimately it would be the children that would miss out if parents withdraw them from clubs and activities due to debt with clubs and increasing fee costs.</p> <p>Those present voted unanimously to transfer £2,000 from the Health and Wellbeing Association to the Children and Youth Network to support bursaries for children of low income families.</p> <p>JMc suggested that opportunities should also be offered to families in outlying villages experiencing hardship and transport poverty. The use of bursaries and the former Summer of Play monies to be explored. Agreed that the Support from the Start Family Support Worker for the ward, Jan Gaunt, best placed to identify those families in most need of support.</p> <p>DH was delighted to announce that Lauren Cowie would be taking over from Lesley Kay as Director of North Berwick Youth Project in May. LK will remain on the Board for a short period to induct and support Lauren in her new role. LC will continue to have a part-time role as a Youth Worker.</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing Association – HS advised that the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Association would take place next Tuesday the 18th of May at the Community Centre 2 p.m. All welcome.</p> <p>East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership, Housing and Place Engagement will take place 14 and 15 June 2022 at North Berwick Day Centre.</p> <p>The East Lothian Walking Festival is a 4 day event planned for August 18-21. The event will offer and promote walking (and wheeling where possible) opportunities across the county. The benefits to people’s mental, social and physical health from being active are manifold and well documented. Walking is an activity that is easily accessible, requires little in the way of specialised equipment and can literally be enjoyed straight from one’s doorstep. Walks come in all shapes and sizes from challenging long distance hikes to a gentle stroll around the neighbourhood, but all are beneficial to the participants. The overarching aim of this festival is to help walking to become a part of everyone’s life. 3 levels of walks will be offered. Leader led, group walks and Aging Well Walks. A host of organisations that already host walking activities in East Lothian will facilitate the event.</p> <p>On The Move – BW advised the draft minutes from the 27th of April have still to be circulated. DH to follow up. BW highlight the following matters currently being addressed by and through the On the Move Group.</p>	<p>DH/KN</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The X5 bus service is to be restored from 5th June 2022 on an hourly service during the day plus a Sunday Service would run during the Golf Opens and Fringe by the Sea. - Potholes. Jim Goodfellow was pursuing. Unfortunately due to Jim's ill health it will now be necessary to go through the ELC 'Pothole' reporting site to chase. Aberlady was particularly bad including cats' eyes being dislodged and removed causing trip hazards. - Road safety campaign. North Berwick Community Council is sponsoring a poster art/advert competition with local children. Welcomed and await the winning results with interest. - Camper vans at the bottom of Jacobs Ladder. The railings had been damaged and required to be repaired at car park at sewage works/Jacobs Ladder in North Berwick. There is a problem with camper vans particularly overnight parking at the seafront car parks, notably the above and at Haugh Road viewpoint. The essential sewage lorry had also been impeded on the access to works. ELC Roads colleagues to pursue. - Phase 1 'Sustrans' Works at NB Schools campus. ELC Phase 1 submission has been approved and budgeted in full and work will start in the school summer holidays. Also raised, sequencing of traffic lights at Law Road/ Clifford Road/ St Baldreds Road and the continuation of double yellows there south as far as the bus stop. To be pursued with ELC. - Dirleton Fingerposts. The village had waited long enough for the countywide survey and will pay for the posts themselves. The one way/no entry arrangement in the village needs better signage. - Clutter and bins on NB High Street. Initial inspection by an ELC official seemed to suggest no problem, but suggested that he needs to meet with our blind and less abled members to get a true picture. - ELC Executive Director of Place has confirmed that the sum of £ 34,647 would be carried over into the 2022/23 budget in addition to the 'normal' £50,000. <p>A debate ensued on how carry forward Roads money should be utilised and whether or not there was drainage issue that required exploration in the East end of the High Street.</p> <p>Support from the Start - KN advised that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - She and Jan Guant were virtually delivering Raising Children with Confidence (6 week programme) to 15 parents from across the ward. - Baby massage at the community centre had been well attended since it started back. - Jan Gaunts post (Family Support worker) had been successfully funded for a further year. - New ASN group had started with Ann Richardson and Jan Gaunt, meeting monthly. 4/5 pre-school children coming along. 	
8. Reports from Village Representatives		
	<p>Aberlady Community Association <i>(Post Meeting Note)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACA in discussions about major Hall Refurbishment - Funds for Good causes has recently supported Gala Committee's request for audio equipment, Parent council's request for flasks, and the May newsletter. 	

- Aberlady in Bloom has entered Beautiful Scotland competition again this year. Hanging baskets, flower tub displays and wild flower areas around the village are planned.
- Aberlady Sit and Stroll project is hoping to have new benches in place this month.
- A team of residents has volunteered to manage the defibrillators in the village.
- Talks continue without MSP, ACA, the community council and residents to understand the issues concerned with sewage overflowing in Aberlady Bay.
- Talks continue with ELC, Community Council, Parent Council and ACA about traffic management in Aberlady.
- A village party will take place on the Football field to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.
- Aberlady's Gala Day will take place on Saturday 4th June.
- Coffin Lane has been resurfaced.
- Youth Network activities to take place this Spring/Summer - surf skate lessons, parkour activities and in the Autumn Art Classes.

Gullane Village Association (Post Meeting Note)

- Hosted a very successful Easter Family Crafting & Fun event, with the help from ladies from Gullane Parish Church, which was enjoyed by many local young families, allowing both existing and new families to meet and socialise.
- The hosting of events throughout the Gullane Food & Drinks Festival has help spread the word that the hall is there for the community to hire and to enjoy. New art classes and the Flower Club have already made bookings.
- The new furniture and laptops, once they arrive, will make it an even better space for all. Thank you for your support with this expense.
- The GVA hall bookings diary, now being available online, has already been given positive feedback by the community in identifying availability.
- After the success of last year's Artisan Fair we are aiming to run another in June over a weekend for local creative and ECO businesses to take part.
- The GVA's summer newsletter is now being compiled but we believe that issuing free of charge to every household is no longer sustainable without additional sponsorship or funding. Rising fuel costs are the main reason.
- The GVA is meeting on Thursday to discuss planning for its first AGM. In addition, to discuss what's next for the association over the coming months including planning some Summer of Play events, raising funds for new lighting, heating & a full kitchen refit.
- For anyone involved with Ukrainian families arriving in East Lothian, we think the size and set up of the Recreation Hall would make a comfortable and relaxing meeting space for families to get together on a regular basis. If you are aware of such a requirement, please let us know.

9. General Budget Priorities 2022/2023

No applications received and due to the building having to be closed, the meeting was drawn to a close.

10. Additional Scottish Government Funding – COVID Recovery		
	No information provided due to the building having to be closed. The meeting was drawn to a close.	
11. A.O.C.B.		
	HS thanked everyone for coming along, highlighted the joy and value of meeting in person once again, and apologised for ending the meeting abruptly as the building required to be closed.	
Dates of Next Meetings	Dates for meetings 2022 21.6.2022 30.8.2022 15.11.2022	Apologies to nbc-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk